

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

**Claim 1 (currently amended):** A safety device ~~for a vehicle (2), in particular for a motor vehicle,~~ for reducing the risk of injury to a vehicle occupant in the event of lateral impact, said safety device comprising: accidents, having

at least one cushion element (32, 34) which is arranged on the vehicle ~~[[(2)]]~~ laterally adjacent to an occupant position and can be moved by an actuating device ~~[(40)]~~ from a rest position into a deployed position in the direction of the occupant position, ~~it being possible for; wherein,~~

the actuating device (40) to be ~~is~~ driven by a vehicle-mounted drive; and ~~(46), characterized~~

~~in that the vehicle-mounted drive (46) is embodied as~~ comprises an electric motor.

**Claim 2 (currently amended):** The safety device as claimed in claim 1, wherein:

characterized

~~in that~~ the cushion element (32, 34) is arranged in or on a door [[(8)]] or in or on a body pillar [[(6)]] of the vehicle [[(2)]].

**Claim 3 (currently amended):** The safety device as claimed in claim 1 [[or 2]], wherein:

~~eharacterized~~

~~in that~~ a plurality of cushion elements (32, 34) and/or additional foam elements (18, 26, 28, 30) ~~which are arranged in series are provided.~~

**Claim 4 (currently amended):** The safety device as claimed in claim 1, wherein: at least one of the preeeding claims,

~~eharacterized~~

~~in that~~ the cushion elements (32, 34) and/or [[the]] foam elements (18, 26, 28, 30) are arranged such that they can be displaced with respect to one another.

**Claim 5 (currently amended):** The safety device as claimed in claim 1, wherein: at least one of the preeeding claims,

~~eharacterized~~

~~in that~~ the cushion elements (32, 34) and/or the foam elements (18, 26, 28, 30) are at least indirectly guided by linear guides [[(60)]].

**Claim 6 (currently amended):** The safety device as claimed in claim 1,  
wherein: at least one of the preceding claims,

~~eharacterized~~

~~in that~~ the cushion element (32, 34) can be locked in a deployed position.

**Claim 7 (currently amended):** The safety device as claimed in claim 1,  
wherein: at least one of the preceding claims,

~~eharacterized~~

~~in that~~ the actuating device [(40)] has a traction means [(42)] which ~~is embodied as~~ comprises one of a cable [or] and a belt.

**Claim 8 (currently amended):** The safety device as claimed in claim 7,  
wherein:

~~eharacterized~~

~~in that~~ the traction means ]](42)] is stored, at least in sections, in or on a store [(44)].

**Claim 9 (currently amended):** The safety device as claimed in claim 8,  
wherein:

~~eharacterized~~

~~in that~~ the traction means ~~[(42)]~~ can be wound in or onto the store ~~[(44),]~~; and ~~in that~~

the store ~~[(44)]~~ can be driven by the vehicle-mounted drive ~~[(46)]~~.

**Claim 10 (currently amended):** The safety device as claimed in claim 1, wherein: at least one of the preceding claims,

~~characterized~~

~~in that~~ an auxiliary drive is provided for moving the cushion element ~~(32, 34)~~ in the direction of the occupant position.

**Claim 11 (currently amended):** The safety device as claimed in claim 10, wherein:

~~characterized~~

~~in that~~ the auxiliary drive is formed by one of a spring store ~~and/or~~ and pyrotechnic elements.

**Claim 12 (currently amended):** The safety device as claimed in claim 10, wherein: at least one of the preceding claims,

~~characterized~~

~~in that~~ the vehicle-mounted drive ~~(46)~~ ~~and/or~~ the auxiliary drive ~~are/is~~ coupled to sensors for detecting ~~[(the)]~~ at least one of a vehicle state ~~and/or~~ the ~~a~~ state of the vehicle's surroundings.

**Claim 13 (currently amended):** The safety device as claimed in claim 1, wherein: at least one of the preceding claims,

characterized

in that at least one return element [(58)] is provided for moving the at least one cushion element from a deployed position into the rest position.

**Claim 14 (currently amended):** The safety device as claimed in claim 13, wherein:

characterized

in that the return element (58) is formed by comprises at least one tension spring.

**Claim 15 (currently amended):** Method for operating a safety device, in particular as claimed in one of the preceding claims, in particular for a motor vehicle for reducing the risk of injury to a vehicle occupant in the event of [[later]] an eminent impact accident, said device having comprising:

at least one cushion element (32, 34) which is arranged on the vehicle [[(2)]] laterally adjacent to an occupant position; and can be moved by

an actuating device [(40)] for moving said cushion element from a rest position into a deployed position in the direction of the occupant position[.];

wherein characterized in that the actuating device [[(40)]] is driven by an electric motor.